

Midland, C. 02. The first nine gentlemen named above will accordingly form the Municipal Council for the present year.

—

YATTEE FAY says:—“Sir Charles Mitchell, Governor of the Straits Settlements, will probably be transferred to Hongkong next month, when Sir William Robinson's term expires. In point of value there is but little difference. At Singapore the table allowance is larger by £800, but the salary of the commandant of the Port is well up to this amount.”

INSURANCES.

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.
 Total Funds at 31st December, 1895, £12,493,131.
 Authorized Capital, £3,000,000, 8/0
 Subscribed Capital, £2,750,000, 0/0
 Paid-up Capital, £2,687,500, 0/0
 Fire Funds, £2,601,016, 2/9

HAVING been appointed Agents of the above Company we are prepared to accept European and Chinese RISKS at Current Rates.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
 Agents.
 Hongkong, July 23, 1896. 1476

UNION ASSURANCE SOCIETY.
 (Instituted in the Reign of Queen Anne A.D. 1714.)

CAPITAL FULLY SUBSCRIBED, £450,000.
 CAPITAL PAID UP, £180,000.
 TOTAL INVESTED FUNDS EXCEED £2,700,000.
 TOTAL ANNUAL INCOME, £250,000.

THE Undersigned, having been appointed Agents of the above Society in Hongkong, are prepared to issue POLICIES against FIRE on the usual terms.

HARRY WICKING & Co.,
 Agents.
 1431

INTIMATIONS.

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 Consulting Mechanical Engineers and Surveyors,
 CONTRACTORS FOR THE SUPPLY OF ALL KINDS OF MACHINERY AND APPLIANCES.

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 Postal Address, 17 Praya Central.

JOHN W. KINGHORN,
 M.I.M.E., M.I.Mech.E., London.
DONALD MACDONALD,
 Hongkong, November 5, 1896. 2233

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SHARE LIST—QUOTATIONS—FEBRUARY 3, 1897.

Stocks. No. of Shares. Value. Paid-up. Closing Quotations, Cash.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK CORP. 80,000 125 184 1/2 prem.—\$356, sales & buyers

Bank of China, Limited 39,950 2 1/2 2 1/2 prem.—\$100, sales & buyers

Bank of Communications, Limited 1,250 2 1/2 2 1/2 prem.—\$100, sales & buyers

National Bank of China, Limited 1,250 2 1/2 2 1/2 prem.—\$100, sales & buyers

Canton Insurance Office Co., Ltd. 10,000 250 50 218, sales and buyers

China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd. 24,000 83 33 28 7/8, sales

North-China Insurance Co., Ltd. 5,000 100 20 1/2, sales

Strait Insurance Co., Ltd. 10,000 250 50 218, sales

Union Assurance Society, Ltd. 10,000 250 50 218, sales

Yong Sang Insurance Association, Ltd. 5,000 100 20 1/2, sales

China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd. 20,000 100 20 1/2, sales

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd. 5,000 250 50 218, sales and buyers

H'kong & Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd. 12,500 125 184 1/2 prem.—\$356, buyers

China and Manilla S. S. Co., Ltd. 5,000 50 10 1/2, sales

Douglas Steamship Co., Limited 20,000 15 1/2 15 3/4, ex div., sales

H.K. & N. Steamship Co., Ltd. 80,000 10 1/2 10 1/2, sales and buyers

Indo-China S. N. Company, Limited 80,000 10 1/2 10 1/2, sales

China Mutual S. N. Co. 20,000 10 1/2 10 1/2, sales

Do. (new issue) 20,000 10 1/2 10 1/2, sales

China Sugar Company, Limited 20,000 100 100 1/2, sales

Luzon Sugar Company, Limited 7,000 50 10 1/2, sales and buyers

H.K. & Kow. Wharf & Godown Co., Limited 30,000 50 10 1/2, sales

Wanchai Warehouse and Godown Co., Limited 2,000 100 100 1/2, sales

Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Company, Limited 50,000 100 100 1/2, sales

Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited 6,000 50 10 1/2, sales

Humphreys Battery Finance Co., Limited 25,400 10 1/2 10 1/2, sales

West Point Building Co., Limited 12,500 50 10 1/2, sales and buyers

H.K. High-Level Tramways Co., Ltd. 1,250 50 10 1/2, sales

Jebsen Mining & Trading Co., Ltd. 40,000 5 1/2 5 1/2, sales

Puoying Mining Co., Ltd. 80,000 4 1/2 4 1/2, sales and buyers

INTIMATIONS.

THE CHINESE MAIL
 報日字華

THIS paper is now issued every day. The subscription is fixed at Five Dollars per annum delivered in Hongkong or Elsewhere Forty Cents including postage to Coast ports.

It is the first Chinese Newspaper ever issued under purely native direction. The chief support of the paper is of course derived from the native community, amongst whom also are to be found the guarantors and securities necessary to place it on a business and legal footing.

The projectors, basing their estimates upon the most reliable information from the various Presses in China and Japan, from Australia, California, Singapore, Penang, Saigon, and other places frequented by the Chinese, consider themselves justified in guaranteeing a large and ever-increasing circulation. The advantages offered to advertisers are therefore unusually great, and the foreign community generally will find it to their interest to avail themselves of them.

The field open to a paper of this description—conducted by native efforts, but progressive and anti-obstructive in tone—is almost limitless. It is on the one hand commends Chinese belief and interest, while on the other it deserves every aid that can be given to it by foreigners.

Like English journals it contains Editorials, with Local, Shipping, and Commercial News and Advertisements.

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If the trip is extended beyond Victoria, half fare extra.

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Extra bearers or drivers and extra hours to be paid proportionate sums.

HONGKONG RATES OF POSTAGE.

In the following Statements and Tables the Rates are given in cents, and are for Letters per half ounce, for Books and Patterns, per two ounces.

Newspapers per two ounces in weight are charged as double, triple, &c., as the case may be, but such papers or packets of papers may be sent at Book Rate. Two Newspapers must not be folded together as one, nor must anything whatever be inserted except blank leaf Supplements of the same paper and the same date. Printed matter may, however, be enclosed, if the whole be paid at Book Rate. Prices Current may be paid either as Newspapers or Books.

Commercial Papers signify such papers as, though Written by Hand, do not bear the character of an actual or personal correspondence, such as invoices, deeds, copies, &c. This charge on them is the same as for books.

The sender of a Registered Article for a Union Country may obtain an acknowledgment of delivery on paying an extra fee of 5 cents.

The limit of weight for Books and Commercial Papers for Foreign Post Offices is 4 lbs. Papers for such offices are limited to 8 ounces except to Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Congo Free State, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Greece, Guatemala, Hawaii, Holland, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Peru, Porto Rico, Portugal, Rumania, Salvador, San Marino, Spain, Switzerland, Tunis, The Argentine Republic, The Dominican Republic, The Republic of Honduras, United States, to which places 12 oz. (350 grammes) is the limit, and must not exceed the dimensions: 12 inches by 8 inches by 4 inches.

Countries of the Postal Union. The Union may be taken to comprise all civilized countries.

Postage to the United Kingdom. Letters, 10 cents per 1 oz. Post Cards, 4 cents each. Registration, 10 cents. Books, Patterns and Maps, 2 cents per 2 oz. Custom Papers, 2 cents per 2 oz.

Postage to Union Countries. General Rates, by any route: Letters, 10 cents per 1 oz. Post Cards, 4 cents each. Reply Post Cards, 3 cents each. Books and Patterns, 2 cents per 2 oz. Newspapers, 2 cents per 2 oz. Books, Patterns and Maps, 2 cents per 2 oz. Custom Papers, 2 cents per 2 oz.

There is no charge on redirected correspondence within the Postal Union.

LOCAL POSTAGE. The General Local Rates for Hongkong, China and Treaty Ports (Canton excepted) are: Letters per 1 oz., 5 cents (e). Post Cards, each, 1 cent. Reply Post Cards, 2 cents each. Books and Patterns, 2 cents per 2 oz. Newspapers and Printed Circulars, 2 cents per 2 oz. Registration, 5 cents.

(2) Between Hongkong, Canton, and Macao 3 cents.

Local Delivery. 1. All correspondence posted before 5 p.m. on any week day for addresses in Victoria will be delivered the same day.

2. To Town (Ship Street to Robinson Street West, up to level of Robinson Road) at 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., noon, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. 8 p.m. In the Suburbs, 9 a.m. to noon, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. The delivery should be retarded by the Contract Mails.

3. Boxholders who desire to send Circulars, Dividend Warrants, Invitations, Cards, &c., of all the same weight, to addresses in Hongkong, or the Ports of China, may deliver them to the Post Office unstamped, the postage being then charged to the sender's account. Each batch must consist of at least ten.

4. Boxholders may also send Patterns to the same places in the same way. Envelopes containing Patterns may be wholly enclosed, if the nature of the contents be first exhibited or stated to the Postmaster General, as he may consider necessary, and approved by him. Printed Circulars may be inserted in such Pattern Packages.

The Post Office declines all responsibility for Unregistered Letters containing Bank Notes or Jewellery and where Registration has been neglected, WILL MAKE NO ENQUIRIES into alleged losses of such letters.

It is forbidden to insert in ordinary or Registered Correspondence (a) Current Coin (b) Articles liable to Customs Duty.

Parcels not exceeding 11 lbs. in weight are received in Hongkong and at British Post Offices in China, for transmission to the United Kingdom by P. & O. Packet via Gibraltar. No parcel is sent with the Overseas Mail via Brindisi, unless it is a letter or a parcel of not more than eight days' date, and the parcel, even though sealed, is liable to be opened for examination.

Parcels must be posted in Hongkong before 3 p.m. on the day before the departure of the Mail. These arrive at the Coast, &c., after this hour are kept for the following P. & O. Mail.

The Postage is 40 cents per lb. and 25 cents each succeeding lb. or fraction of a lb. which includes Registration fee, and must be prepaid in stamps. No further charge is made in the United Kingdom except for Customs duty. No parcel must be more than 3 feet 6 inches in length, or 10 feet in greatest length and girth combined. A receipt is given for each Parcel.

The sender must fill up a form of Customs Declaration, which can be obtained free at each Post Office. No parcel can be accepted till this is completely and accurately filled. The only articles ordinarily sent from China which are liable to duty are Tea and Tobacco.

Dangerous or perishable goods, articles likely to injure the Mails, Liquids (unless securely packed) or parcels easily crushed, such as hand-boxes, are prohibited. No Parcel can be received if its value exceeds \$100. A Parcel may contain a letter to the same address as that of the Parcel itself, or another Parcel to the same address. No other enclosures are allowed.

With regard to inward Parcels, addresses are requested to observe that the Parcel Mail is not subject to the ordinary distribution of letters, &c., is delivered by the postmen at home in 10d. per lb., the Regulations are generally similar to the above, and the Parcels are sent out via Gibraltar.

Indemnity for the Loss of a Registered Article. The Post Office is not legally responsible for the safe delivery of Registered correspondence, but it is prepared to make good the value of such correspondence lost while passing through the Post, to the extent of \$10, in certain cases, provided:—

1. That the sender duly observed all the conditions of Registration required.

2. That the letter was securely enclosed in a reasonably strong envelope.

3. That notification was made to the Postmaster General of Hongkong immediately the loss was discovered, and within a year at the most from the date of Posting.

4. That the Postmaster General is satisfied that the loss occurred whilst the correspondence was in the custody of the British Postal Administration in China, that it was not caused by any fault on the part of the sender, by destruction by fire, or shipwreck, or by the dishonesty or negligence of any person not in the employment of the Hongkong Post Office.

5. No compensation can be paid for mere damage to fragile articles such as portraits, watches, handkerchiefs, handkerchiefs, &c., which reach their destination, although in a broken or deteriorated condition. Nor on account of alleged losses of the Contents of Registered covers which have reached their destination. Nor on account of any article for which the addressee has signed a receipt.

Miscellaneous or Delayed Correspondence. When correspondence has been misdirected or delayed (both of which are liable to happen occasionally) all that the addressee need do is to note on the cover, Sent to _____, or Received at _____, as the case may be, and forward it, without any further writing, to the Postmaster General. This action should be taken the first time cause of complaint occurs; it is a mistake to let such matters pass for fear of giving trouble, a course which generally gives more trouble in the end.

1. Circulars, Dividend Warrants, Invitations, Cards, Patterns, Bills, Almanacs, &c., for addresses in Hongkong or the Ports of China, in batches of not less than ten of uniform size and weight may be sent to the Post Office unstamped, the postage at the rate of one cent each, being paid in cash or charged to the sender's account. Special accounts may be opened with non-holder holders for the delivery of considerable numbers of such articles.

2. Such covers, when addressed to places other than Hongkong or China, must be prepaid two cents each in stamps as heretofore.

3. Circulars, &c., must not exceed 2 ounces each in weight. Patterns, Almanacs, &c., must be under 4 ounces each in weight. Heavier articles will be charged ordinary rates.

4. Envelopes containing Patterns, &c., may be wholly closed if the nature of the contents be first exhibited or stated to the Postmaster General, as he may consider necessary, and approved by him. Printed Circulars may be enclosed in pattern packets.

5. Addresses must be complete. That is to say, on such covers as are not addressed to heads of houses the addressee's residence or place of business must be added. Incompletely addressed covers will be returned to the sender for address.

Money Orders. (Office Hours (Sundays and holidays excepted) 10 to 4, Saturdays 10 to 1, but the office is open from 10 to 5 on the working day next before any mail for Europe, which leaves at noon.)

1. Money Orders are issued at Hongkong and Shanghai at current rates of exchange on the following Countries and places:—

Canada. China (Peking, Canton, Swatow, Amoy, Hongkong, Shanghai, Hankow, and others).

Ceylon. India (Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, and others).

Japan (Yokohama, Kobe, and others).

Malaya (Singapore, Penang, and others).

Philippines (Manila, Cebu, and others).

Siam (Bangkok, and others).

Sumatra (Singapore, and others).

Taiwan (Keelung, and others).

United States of America. Victoria. United States of America.

Foreign Countries.—Austria-Hungary. Belgium. Bulgaria. China (Peking, Canton, Swatow, Amoy, Hongkong, Shanghai, Hankow, and others).

France, with Algeria. German Empire (including Heligoland and the Canary Islands).

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Ceylon. India (Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, and others).

Japan (Yokohama, Kobe, and others).

Malaya (Singapore, Penang, and others).

Philippines (Manila, Cebu, and others).

Siam (Bangkok, and others).

Sumatra (Singapore, and others).

Taiwan (Keelung, and others).

United States of America. Victoria. United States of America.

Foreign Countries.—Austria-Hungary. Belgium. Bulgaria. China (Peking, Canton, Swatow, Amoy, Hongkong, Shanghai, Hankow, and others).

France, with Algeria. German Empire (including Heligoland and the Canary Islands).

Holland. Italy (with Agencies at Tripoli, Anah and Massorah).

Norway. Portugal (including Madeira and the Azores).

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